



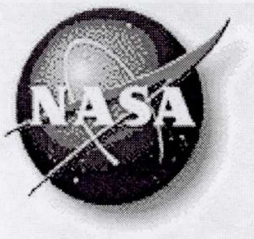
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MARS DRILLING STATUS

NASA JSC EXPLORATION OFFICE

March 6, 2002

Humboldt C. Mandell, Jr., Ph.D.



Exploration of Mars Objectives



Chart Our Destiny

- Send explorers to the limits of technology
- Understand the solar system forces and processes that affect the future habitability of Earth
- Find extraterrestrial resources of human interest
- Assess suitability of selected planetary locales for future human exploration and commercialization
- Conduct in-depth scientific investigations

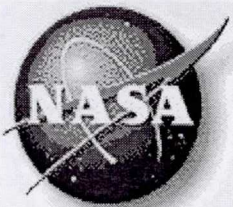


Origin of Life and its Existence Beyond Earth

- Understand the sources and reservoirs of water and organics ... the building blocks of life
- Determine the planetary conditions required for the emergence of life
- Search for evidence of past and present life elsewhere in the solar system

Solar System Formation and Evolution

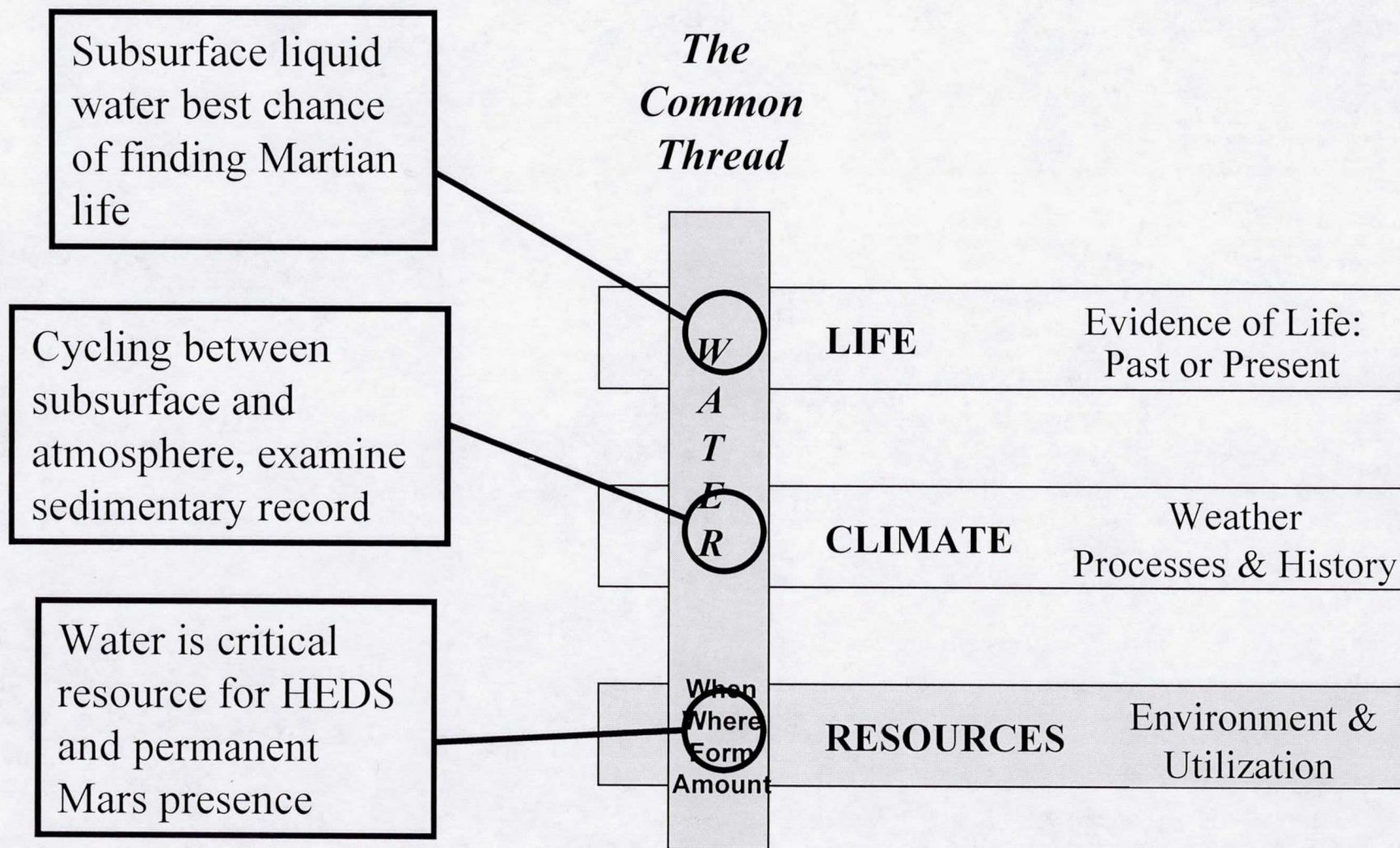
- Understand the origin of the solar system and the forces that formed Earth and the other planets
- Determine the evolutionary processes that led to the diversity of solar system bodies and the uniqueness of the planet Earth
- Use the exotic worlds of our solar system as natural science laboratories



"FOLLOW THE WATER"



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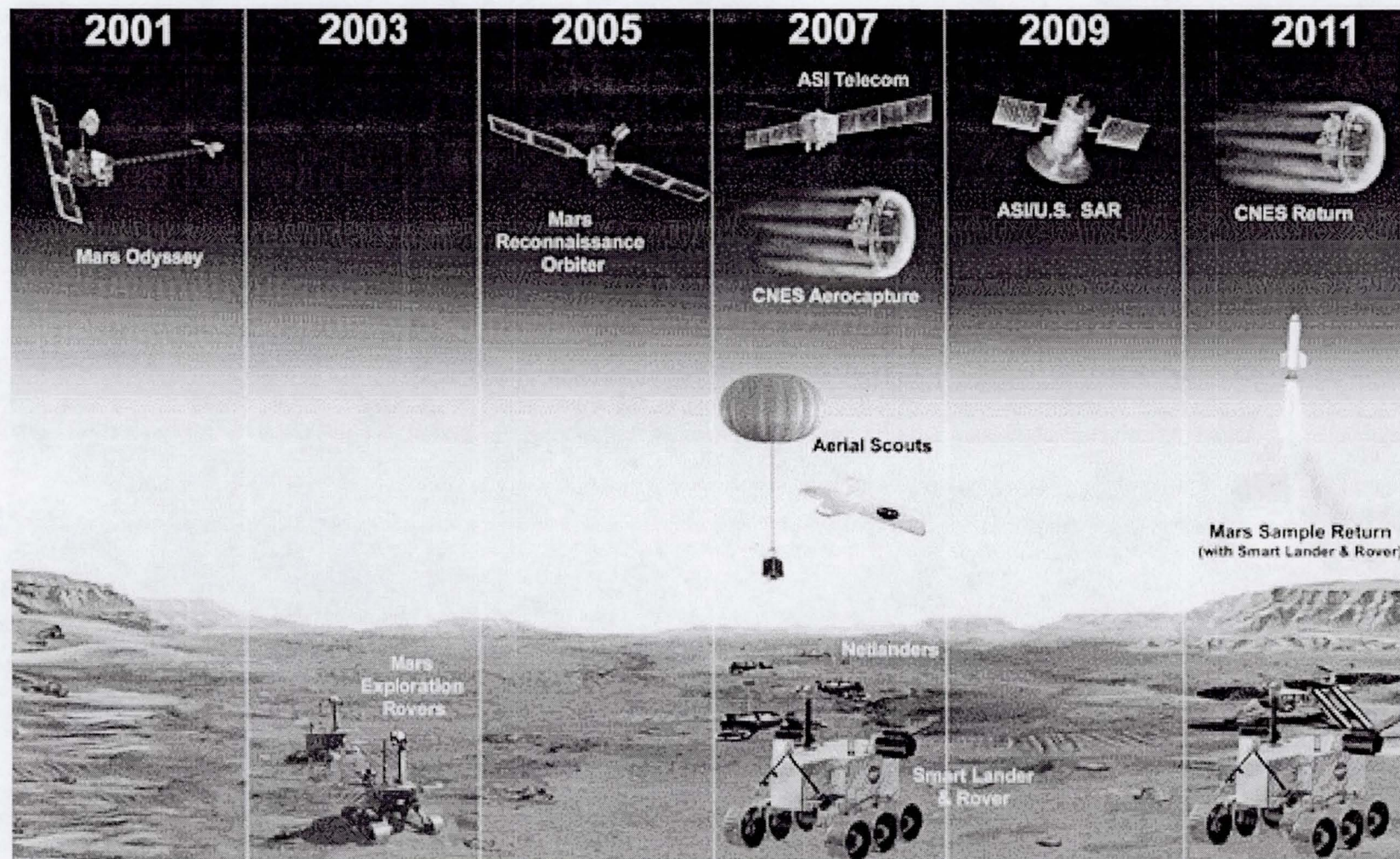


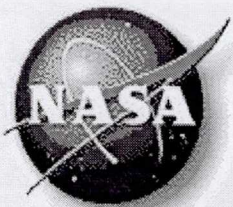


Mars Exploration : Robotic Missions



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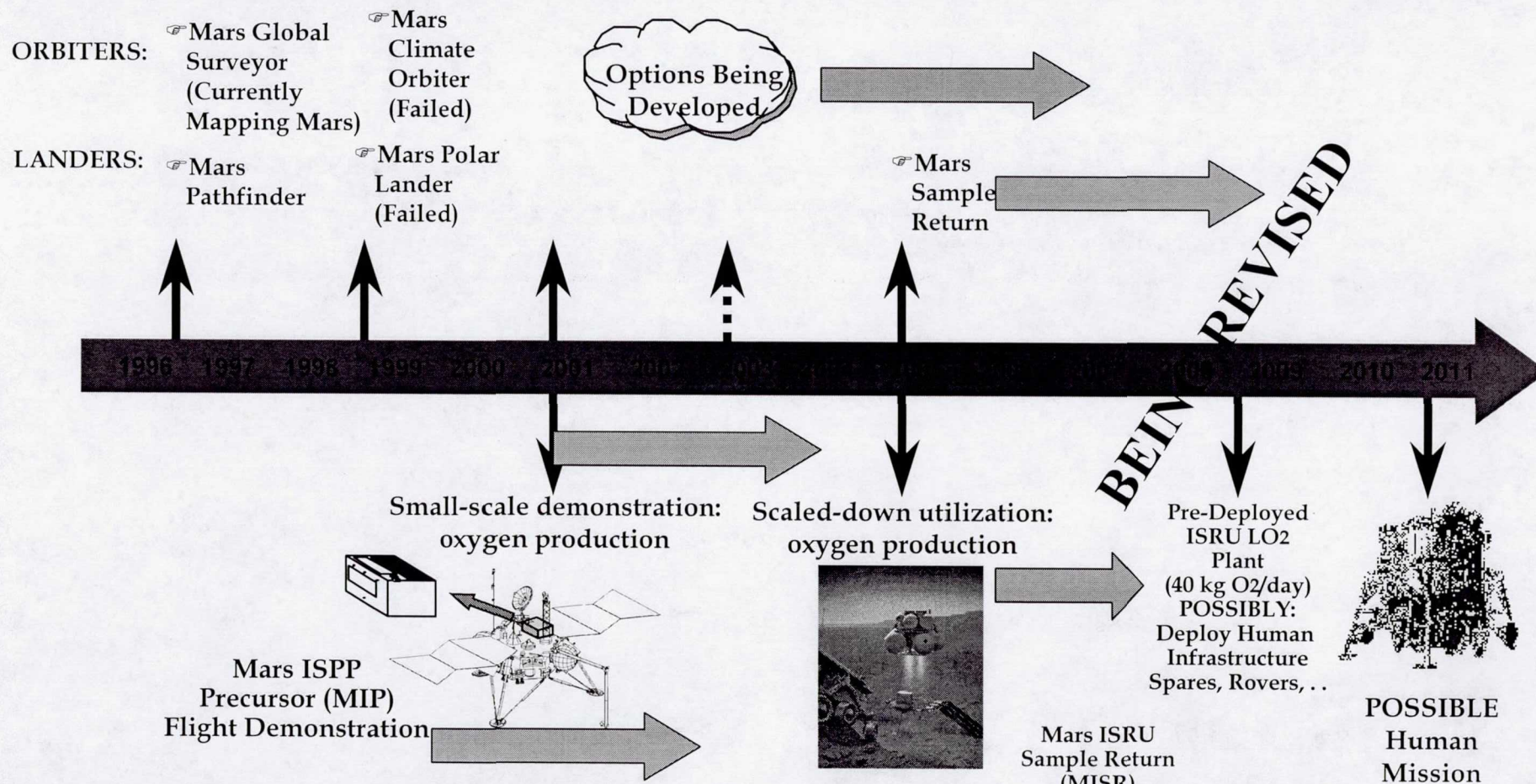


Mars Robotic and Human Mission Opportunities



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SCIENCE ENTERPRISE : Mars Surveyor Exploration Plan, UNDER REVISION



HEDS ENTERPRISE : Mars Robotic Precursor Needs

- Technology demonstrations
- Environment characterization
- Site selection

**Multiple Pages Missing from Available
Version**

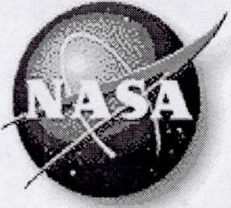


• Why Drill on Mars?

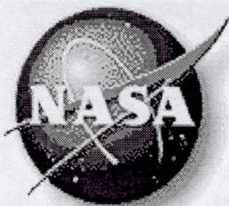
- Resources: Vast quantities of liquid groundwater are theorized at depths of 3-5 km
- Would "Enable" Advanced Human Missions
- Search for Extant Life: Deep aquifers represent best hope for harboring current life
- Extinct Life: Ancient lake and geothermal sites best chance for fossil life
- Climate/Geologic/Hydrologic History: Stratigraphy records Mars evolution
- Sampling: Allows detailed topside analysis



- Challenges for Drilling on Mars:
 - Remote / Robotic Operations
 - Verifying location, distribution of subsurface water
 - Source of Drilling Fluids
 - Mass
 - Power
 - Precision Landings
 - Environment / Climate



- Required Advances in Terrestrial Drilling:
 - 3-D Seismic Data Collection and Analysis
 - Automated Command and Control
 - Automated Rigs
 - Mass for Down Force (3/8 g)
 - “Dry” Drilling
 - Downhole Instrumentation
 - Communications



200 Meter Drill Mission



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Mission:

200 meter Drill

Opportunity:

2005-2012

Description:

***First Access of Mars Subsurf. to 200 m;
Technology Precursor for 4000 m
Groundwater Mission***

Objectives:

- ***Demonstrate ~200 m class drilling technology directly applicable to later 3-5 km Groundwater Mission***
- ***Drill 200 m into Mars Subsurface***
- ***Charaterize downhole environment***
- ***Astrobiology: core and sample Paleolake or Geothermal site, or***
- ***Climate/Hydrology: core and sample Flood Channel or Polar Layered dep.***
- ***Store cores topside for subsequent analysis or sample return***

Approach:

- ***EELV-M to C3=11.0 (1879 kg)***
- ***Baker Hughes dry coring drill concept***
- ***Acquire core samples from drill***
- ***Downhole instr. for stratigraphy, water***

**"Significance"
to Public:**

- ***Drilling - "Breaking new ground"***
- ***Astrobiology potential***

Major System Elements

EELV-M Launch Vehicle

Carrier, Aeroshell, Chute

Lander

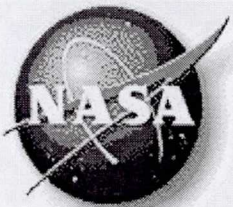
200 meter class Drill

Core Sample Analysis

Core Sample Storage

Total Injected Mass = 1,879 kg

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| • Drill | 231 kg |
| • Instruments | 70 kg |
| • Lander, Dry | 560 kg |
| • Contingency | 111 kg |
| • Propellant, Press. | 240 kg |
| • Heatshield, Backshell | 481 kg |
| • Carrier | 103 kg |
| • Launch Vehicle Margin | 84 kg |



Mars "Deep Core" Mission



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• Description

- Challenge to Reach Mars' Deep Aquifers and Search for Life
- 4,000 – 6000 m Deep Drilling Mission
- Establish initial water/power "oasis" to serve future human missions

• HEDS Objectives

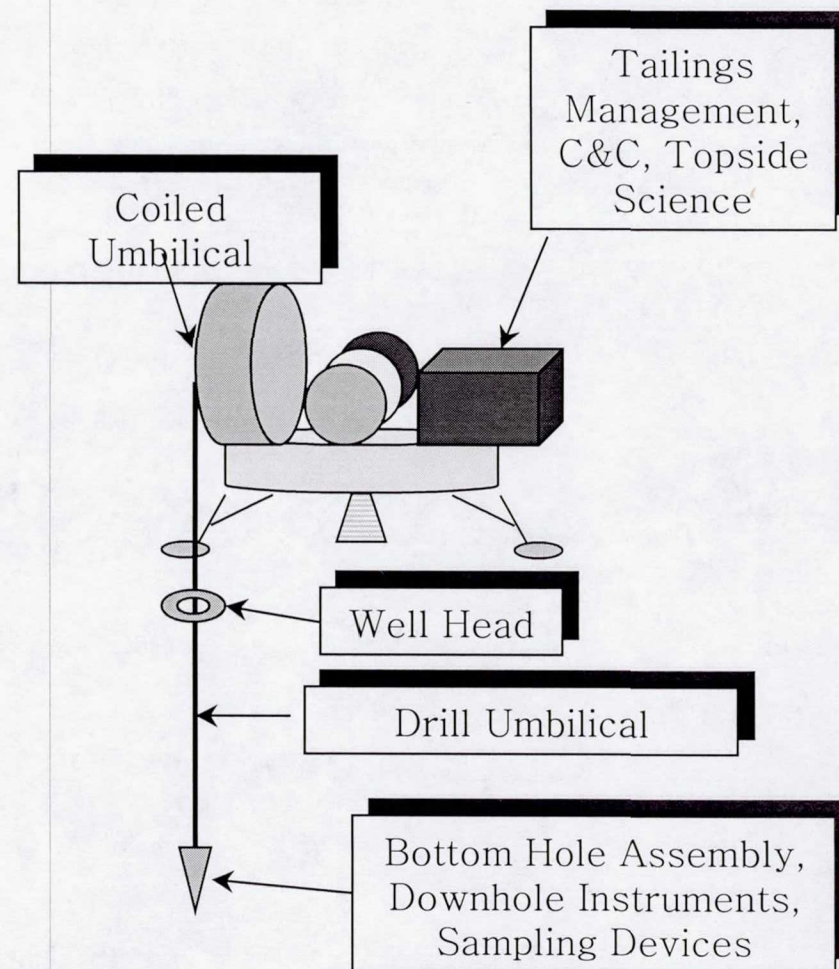
- Locate and "tap" native water supply
- Store water cache in empty lander prop. tanks
- Provide water supply for future mission needs (prop., rover fuel, human consumption, ECLSS)

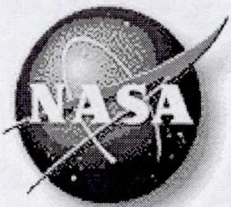
• Science Objectives

- Access and sample liquid groundwater region
- Search for living or fossil life
- Examine subsurface stratigraphy, chemical, and physical properties
- Penetrate and explore permafrost zone

• Approach

- Drill to ~ 4000 – 6000 m depth
- Perform downhole investigations
- Sample for topside analysis
- Target EELV-H LV (~3000 kg total surf. P/L mass)

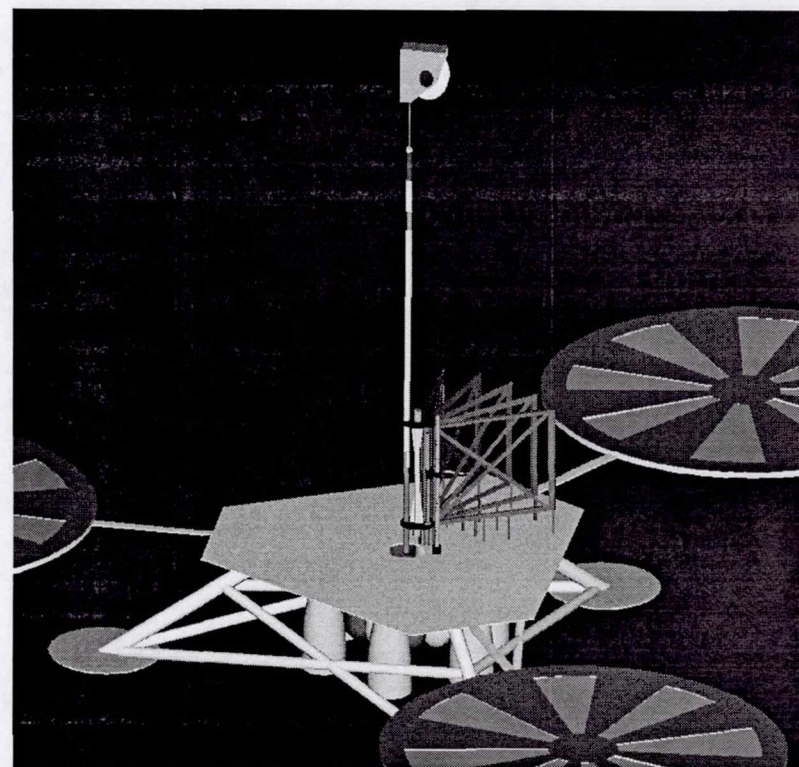
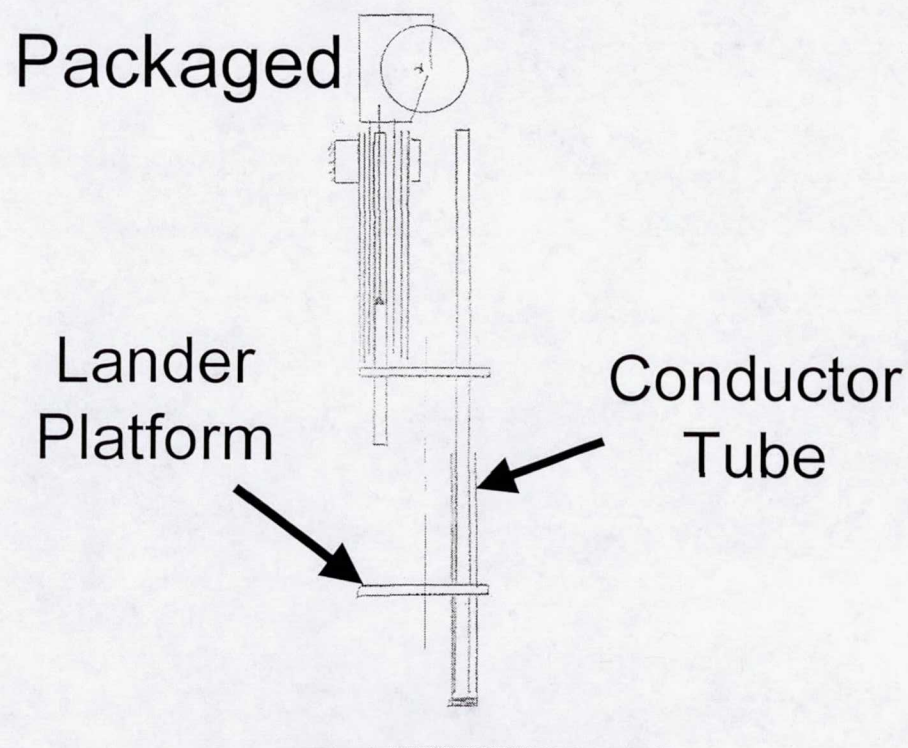




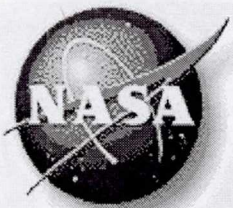
Drill Overview



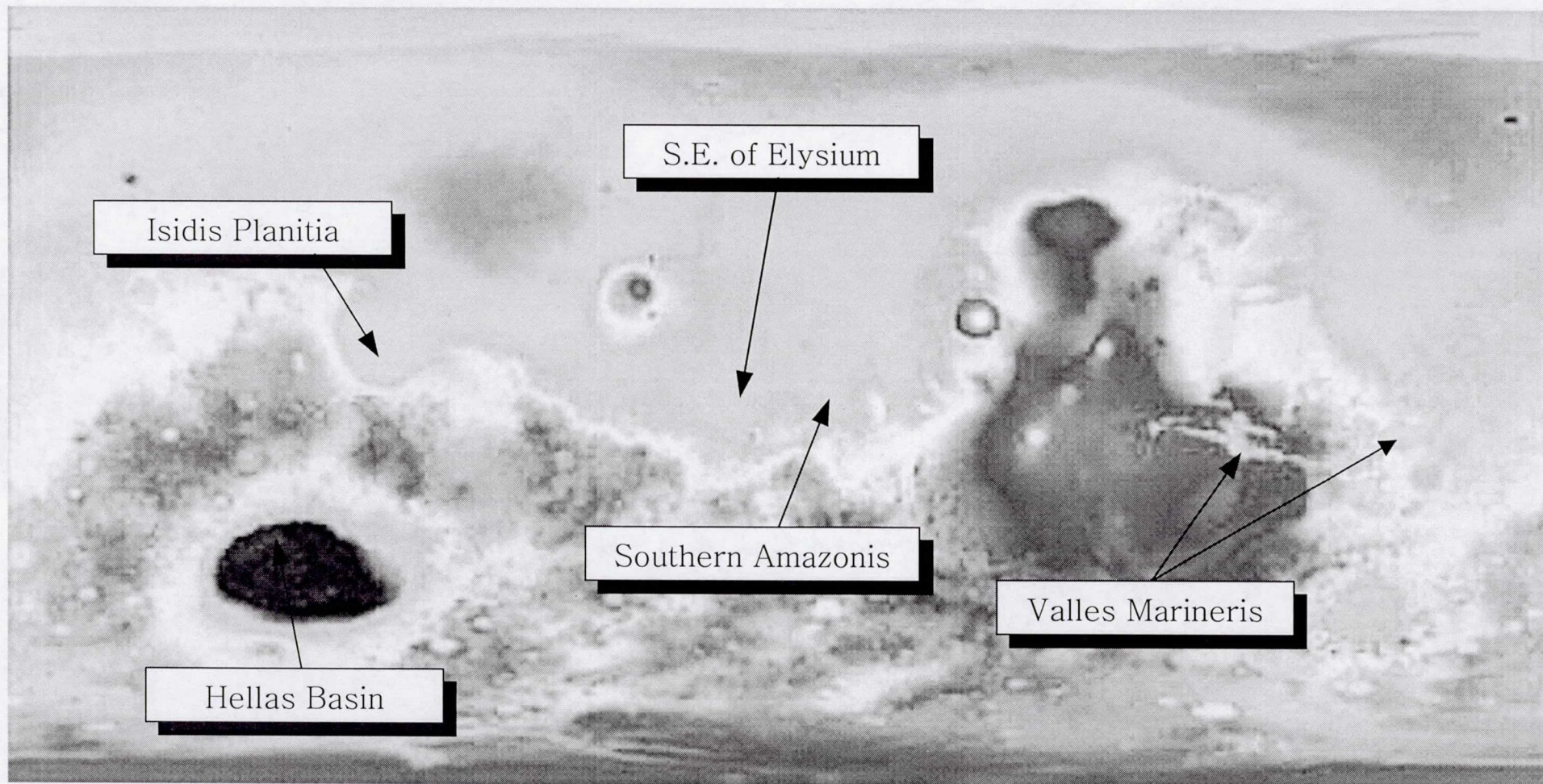
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- Conductor tube [surface casing] serves as a support for the anchor mechanism during initial drilling operations and as storage during Earth-Mars transit.
- Deployment may also include unfolding the drill that is stored in a horizontal position on the lander. This will be dictated by payload envelopes on the lander.
- These issues are still TBD, the focus of work to date has been the actual drilling operation.



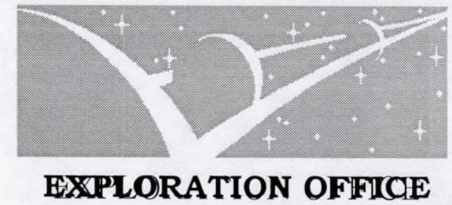
Promising Sites for Mars Groundwater Mission



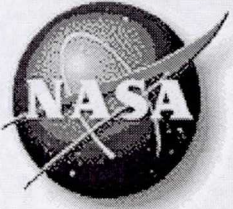
*(S. M. Clifford and T. J. Parker, submitted to Icarus,
7/99)*



CURRENT ACTIVITIES



- NASA JSC ACTIVITIES
 - Bring in private sector expertise
 - Utilize existing technologies
 - Early mission
- NASA AMES DRILLING STUDY
 - “Development of capability to access samples 100+ m deep into the Martian regolith for astrobiology, geosciences, and in situ resource research”
 - Mars “subsurface” team formed, includes JSC
- BUILDING AND TESTING A PROTOTYPE
 - Baker Hughes Design
 - Joint Partnership Manufacturing, NASA Test
- MARS SCOUT MISSIONS
 - \$300 Million Mission
 - JSC/Ames proposal is to deploy a drill in 2007 Opportunity



When Will People Go to Mars?



- When our customers want us to go!
- When is that?
 - When people like you take an active role in the public debate and develop a consensus
 - Or, when a strong economic incentive is found
 - Or, when a National Security issue is involved
- When CAN People Go?
 - Within 7 years of “permission” from the customers